

Amendments to the Specification:

After line 25 on page 5 of the specification please add the following new paragraphs:

Accordingly, an object of the invention is to provide a data reproduction apparatus which can suppress the increase of the pad are PAD and improve data recording efficiency of a recording medium.

To this end, a data reproduction apparatus is provided having a synchronization information detection circuit for detecting synchronization information of a block to be reproduced from a recording medium in which a series of data strings having the synchronization information added thereto is recorded as a block to produce a synchronization information detection signal. A block end position calculation circuit calculates an end position of the block on the recording medium on a basis of the synchronization information detection signal.

A data reproduction circuit reads out data recorded from the detected synchronization information to the calculated end position of the block from the recording medium to reproduce the data. A data processing circuit processes data produced from the data reproduction circuit after elapse of a reproduction delay time on the basis of the synchronization information detection signal.

A first unit includes the synchronization information detection circuit and the data reproduction circuit and a second unit includes the block end position calculation circuit and the data processing circuit, where the synchronization information detection signal is

sent from the first unit to the second unit and the data is sent from the first unit to the second unit after the synchronization information detection signal has been sent.

The synchronization information detection signal and the data are sent from the first unit to the second unit through the same signal line. When synchronization information of a second block continuing to a first block is detected while the data reproduction circuit produces a data string of the first block, outputting of the data string of the first block is temporarily reserved. After the synchronization information detection circuit detects the synchronization information of the second block or after a predetermined time elapses from the time that the synchronization information is not detected, the outputting of the data string of the first block is resumed.